

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

July 11, 2005

The Honorable Gordon R. England
Secretary
United States Navy
The Pentagon
Washington, D.C. 20350

Dear Mr. Secretary:

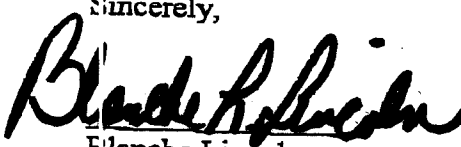
As you are well aware the City of North Little Rock Arkansas will soon be the new home of the former US Navy tug HOGA. It is our understanding that all of the paperwork to complete the transaction is pending final review and will be ready for signatures shortly.

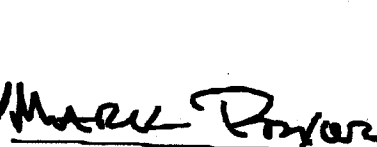
This will be a proud moment for Arkansas and we would like to invite you to personally come to the Capitol and join us and representatives of North Little Rock for a brief and simple signing ceremony to transfer the historic vessel.

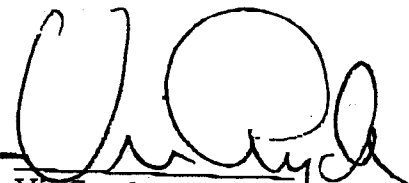
Your personal involvement in this process as well as the hard work of your office, the perseverance of Ms. Gloria Carvalho of the ship donation office and the Leadership of the City have finally culminated in a plan to preserve the HOGA and to educate citizens on the role of the US Navy in WWII.


We are making preliminary plans for a ceremony on the 28th of July if that meets with your approval. If you would prefer a different day that week, we will attempt to accommodate your schedule. We look forward to seeing you and Ms. Carvalho and being able to celebrate this accomplishment.

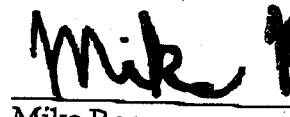
Sincerely,

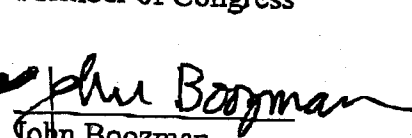

Blanche Lincoln
U.S. Senator


Mark Pryor
U.S. Senator


Vic Snyder
Member of Congress


Marion Berry
Member of Congress


Mike Ross
Member of Congress


John Boozman
Member of Congress

VS:ef